

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MELBOU 00863 250819Z

13

ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00 EA-07 LAB-06

ISO-00 SIL-01 /018 W

----- 115259

R 250545Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2272

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MELBOURNE 0863

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, AS

SUBJ: COMMENT ON VISA REQUEST LAURENCE N.R. CARMICHAEL

REF: SYDNEY 1538

AS NOTED REFTEL PARA 6, LABATT COMMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

A. CARMICHAEL IS ASSISTANT FEDERAL SECRETARY OF AMALGAMATED ENGINEERING UNION KAEU) AND LEADING MEMBER OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF AUSTRALIA (CPA). CPA IS SOVIET ORIENTED UNIT WITHIN AUSTRALIAN COMMUNIST COMPLEX; ITS NATIONAL SECRETARY IS LAURIE AARONS, ADN ITS NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT IS JACK MUNDEY, LATE LEADER OF MILITANT BUILDERS' WORKERS UNION.

B. CARMICHAEL IS SLOWLY BEING ECLIPSED IN CPA AND IN HIS OWN UNION. WITHIN CPA, AARONS HAS SUCCESSFULLY EVICTED CARMICHAEL AND HIS SUPPORTERS FROM NATIONAL EXECUTIVE. ALSO IT IS OVBIOUS THAT CARMICHAEL HAS BEEN REPLACED BY JOHN HALFPENNY, VICTORIA STATE SECRETARY OF AEU, AS LEADER OF PRO MOSCOW COMMUNISTS WITHIN AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS (ACTU).

C. POST RECOMMENDATION IN REFTEL PARA 5 IS IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION. BUT LABATT FEELS DEPARTMENT SHOULD EXPLORE WITH HERMAN REBHAN
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OF UAW IF HIS UNION REGARDS CARMICHAEL VISIT AS NECESSARY. WHILE

VISA REFUSAL MIGHT RESULT IN BAD PUBLICITY IN AUSTRALIA, LABATT
FEELS UAW REACTION IS MORE IMPORTANT. IF UAW WANTS
CARMICHAEL, REFUSAL MIGHT RESULT IN ESTABLISHING
SYMPATHY WITHIN U.S. LABOR MOVEMENT, OUTSIDE AFL-CIO,
WHICH CARMICHAEL CAN MISCHIEVOUSLY EXPLOIT. IF UAW DOES
NOT CARE, VISA SHOULD BE REFUSED AND MISSION CAN LIVE
WITH SITUATION.

D. FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH, LABATT REPORTS MATTER OF
CARMICHAEL VISIT WAS MENTIONED BY HAWKE, ACTU PRESIDENT, PRIOR
TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR UK-US VISIT. HAWKE FELT TRIP
MIGHT "DO CARMICHAEL SOME GOOD" AS "BASTARD MIGHT LEARN
SOMETHING ABOUT RUNNING A TRADE UNION".
BRAND

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Message Attributes

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